

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 were pending prior to filing this Response. Claims 1, 8, 10, 19 and 21 are amended herein; claims 23-25 are added, and therefore claims 1-25 remain for consideration.

The disclosure is objected to because of some minor informalities. The disclosure is amended herein in order to address the objections. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the disclosure is overcome.

Claims 1-8, 10-12, 14, 16 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Ellis (U.S. Pat. No. 3,734,809).

Claims 9, 13, 15 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In other words, the objected to claims contain elements which the Examiner believes to be patentable.

With respect to claim 13, the limitation recited therein, which the Examiner believes to be patentable, is a portion of the forward surface of the fifth (i.e., rearmost plate) projecting beyond the edges of the plates disposed forwardly of the rearmost plate so as to be exposed for viewing information to be displayed thereon while the plates are in the retracted position. Accordingly, claim 1 is amended herein to incorporate the above-mentioned limitation recited in claim 13. It is therefore respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is in allowable form. Moreover, because claims 2-22 each ultimately depend from and thereby incorporate the limitations of claim 1, these dependent claims are likewise deemed to be in allowable form for at least the reasons set forth for amended claim 1.

With respect to claim 9, the limitation recited therein, which the Examiner believes to be patentable, is that the third (rearmost) plate includes adhesive disposed on the rearward surface thereof for attaching to a support surface. Accordingly, new claim 23 is being added to include the limitations of original independent claim 1 and the above-mentioned limitation recited in claim 9. It is therefore respectfully submitted that new claim 23 is in allowable form.

With respect to claim 15, the limitation recited therein, which the Examiner believes to be patentable, is that individual elastic members couple adjacent plates together. Accordingly, new claim 24 is being added to include the limitations of original independent claim 1 and the above-mentioned limitation recited in claim 15. It is therefore respectfully submitted that new claim 24 is in allowable form.

With respect to claim 17, the limitation recited therein, which the Examiner

believes to be patentable, is that the individual elastic members extend between adjacent plates at locations adjacent to the third and fourth edges thereof.

Accordingly, new claim 25 is being added to include the limitations of original independent claim 1 and the above-mentioned limitation recited in claim 17. It is therefore respectfully submitted that new claim 25 is in allowable form.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-25 are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

A check in the amount of \$70.00 is submitted herewith to cover the fee for adding one independent claim in excess of three (\$43.00) and three claims in excess of twenty (\$27.00) for a small entity. No additional fees or deficiencies in fees are believed to be owed. However, authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 13-0235 in the event any such fees are owed.

Respectfully submitted,

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